

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 are pending.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 9, 18, 21, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, and 40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, for the reasons set forth below, these claims have not been rewritten in independent form at this time.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-8, 10-17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, and 39 under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action states that "[t]he step of 'selecting one of the European alphabet letters' does not produce a useful, concrete and tangible result." However, independent claims 1, 10, and 19 are each directed to a method of selecting special characters in a mobile communication terminal. The useful, concrete, and tangible result would be a method of allowing the selecting of special characters in a mobile communication terminal. The step in independent claim 1 referred to by the Examiner recites "selecting one of the European alphabet letters using a numerical key on the keypad." The useful, concrete, and tangible result of this step would be a step allowing the selecting of one of the European alphabet letters using a numerical key on the keypad. Similar arguments apply for the similar steps in independent method claims 10 and 19.

Independent claims 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, and 39 are apparatus claims, to which the Examiner's comments do not apply. More particularly, independent claims 23, 25, 27, 35,

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37, and 39 are each directed to an apparatus for selecting special characters in a mobile communication terminal, while independent claims 29, 31, and 33 are each directed to a computer-readable medium provided in a mobile communication terminal. Moreover, the useful, concrete, and tangible result of each of these apparatus would be allowing the selecting of special characters in a mobile communication terminal.

Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 should be withdrawn.

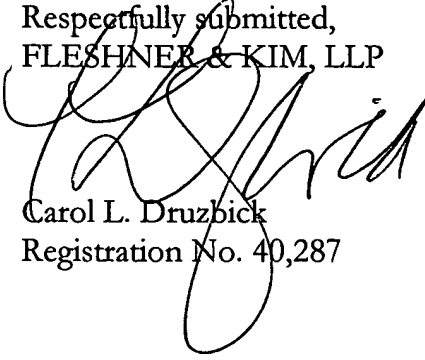
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: January 25, 2007

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